

# Doves released as peace garden opens

RELATIVES of three of the six Saltash firemen who died during the Plymouth Blitz during the Second World War attended the official opening of the town's new Memorial Peace Garden in Alexandra Square on Sunday.

The garden, a project led by town councillor and former mayor Mrs Sue Hooper, is to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and is dedicated to all those who lost their lives in wars and conflicts, and to a hope for peace in the future.

Six doves symbolising peace were released from the steps of St Nicholas and St Faith church rooms by Elizabeth Turner.

The opening ceremony began with a pro-



COUNCILLOR Sue Hooper who led the Memorial Peace Garden project, with Barry Brooking. Picture: Audrey Miller

cession from the Guildhall led by the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Ceremonial Unit. Also in the procession were the Deputy Lord Lieu-

tenant of Cornwall, Admiral Mike Woods; the Mayor and Mayoress of Saltash, Bill and Jean Phillips; the Lord Mayor of Plymouth, Cllr John Mahony,

councillors, freemen of the borough, relatives of those lost in conflict, the Royal British Legion and Saltash Heritage Group.

The Rev Jonathan Budd, president of Saltash Churches Together, dedicated the Memorial Peace Garden, and the mayor's chaplain, the Rev Michelle Parkman gave the prayers.

The garden was opened by Barry Brooking, grandson of Francis Brooking, one of the firemen killed in the Blitz. The mayor laid a wreath of poppies on behalf of the town.

when the population in Saltash was smaller than today.

Other relatives of the Saltash firemen who lost their lives attending were Linda Dodwell, niece of Leslie Tibbs, and Maurice Eglington, nephew of Bernard Jasper.

Cllr Sue Hooper said the project had taken six months of planning and works to complete, and she was delighted that at long last a memorial peace garden had opened in remembrance of all who had lost lives both past and present.



BARRY Brooking unveils the memorial plaque to officially open the new Peace Garden in Saltash



THE Drums and Pipes of the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Ceremonial Unit at the Memorial Peace Garden. Pictures: Audrey Miller



WATCHING the official opening of the Memorial Peace Garden

Opening of the Saltash Memorial Peace Garden - Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015  
by Barry Brooking